

PREFACE

This manual presents doctrine for the infantry battalion to use in combat. Rather than try to solve every tactical situation, this manual establishes a common base of tactical knowledge from which specific solutions to battalion-level tactical problems can be developed. This manual is designed to increase the effectiveness of battalion-level operations by providing doctrinal principles and selected battlefield-proven tactics, techniques, and procedures.

The target audience for this manual includes battalion commanders and staffs, company commanders, and special platoon leaders for all infantry battalions—light, air assault, airborne, ranger, and H-edition (Reserve Component). It also includes service school, ROTC, and military academy instructors, and others who require a single-source reference to dismounted infantry battalion operations. The concepts are based on FM 100-5. Terms and graphics used conform to those in FM 101-5-1. ARTEP 7-20-MTP provides training standards used to prepare the battalion to execute the operations in FM 7-20.

Tough, realistic preparation for combat is dangerous. Commanders and subordinate leaders must instill an awareness of individual and unit safety. Soldiers must be constantly alert and careful in situations that could result in injury or death. They must know the capabilities, functioning, limitations, and hazards of their equipment to use it safely. Risk must be balanced against requirements. Hazardous conditions must be monitored and controlled. **THE WELFARE OF SOLDIERS MUST BE CONSIDERED IN ALL SITUATIONS.**

The provisions of this publication are subject to two international agreements:

STANAG 2082	Relief of Combat Troops
STANAG 2129	Identification of Land Forces on the Battlefield

The proponent for this publication is US Army Infantry School. Send comments and recommendations on DA Form 2028 directly to Commandant, US Army Infantry School, ATTN: ATSH-ATD, Fort Benning, Georgia 31905-5410.

Unless this publication states otherwise, masculine nouns and pronouns do not refer exclusively to men.